STATE SCHOOL AID UPDATE

Michigan Department of Education



NOVEMBER 2021

Vol. 30 No. 2

NOVEMBER PAYMENT INFORMATION

The November state school aid payment is the second fiscal year 2022 payment. The payment will be electronically transferred to districts' accounts on Monday, November 22, 2021.

TAXABLE VALUE

The November payment continues to use the *beginning* 2021 tax roll non-PRE (non-Primary Residence Exempt property), and Commercial Personal property taxable value data for the Section 20 foundation calculations, as provided by the county treasurers prior to October 27, 2021 via the web-based taxable valuation collection process. These data can be viewed by school district personnel on the Department's <u>website</u>. To view your data, enter your district code and choose the appropriate tax year from the drop-down menu. Questions concerning taxable value should **first be directed to the appropriate county treasurer**.

PUPIL MEMBERSHIP

October 2021 unaudited pupil count data received prior to October 27, 2021 were used in the calculation of the blended membership count for the November payment. Otherwise, the estimates that were used in the October payment continue to be used. Please note that the **three-year average membership blend** was calculated for the November payment using either the estimates or the unaudited data, whichever was available. The three-year average blend is used for districts with a current year blend of less than 1,550 pupils **and** 4.5 or fewer pupils per square mile for whom the average of the membership blends for fiscal year 2020, fiscal year 2021, and fiscal year 2022 exceed the current year blend. Districts receiving the three-year blend can see the details of the calculation on the State Aid Financial Status Report.

SPECIAL EDUCATION COST FIGURES

The fiscal year 2020 special education and special education transportation cost figures continue to be used in the November payment. The fiscal year 2021 cost reports, which were due this fall, are being audited by the Office of Special Education and will be used to estimate current year costs when the data are released to the State Aid and School Finance unit. (Cindy Keller, Special Education Office, 517-335-0450, KellerC2@Michigan.gov)

DEFICIT ELIMINATION PLAN

Schools incurring a negative fund balance at June 30, 2021 or projecting a negative fund balance at June 30, 2022 must submit a Deficit Elimination Plan (DEP) with a matching fiscal year 2022 budget. The DEP form is found on our <u>website</u>. Questions may be directed to Chad Urchike at <u>UrchikeC1@Michigan.gov</u>.

BUDGET TRANSPARENCY REMINDER

Back by popular demand, early reviews of transparency pages are available. When your page is updated, please send an email to Chad Urchike at UrchikeC1@Michigan.gov, and it will be given priority. Budget transparency pages must be updated by December 1.

The budget transparency reporting requirements for 2021-22 are the same as in 2020-21. Questions may be directed to Chad Urchike at <u>UrchikeC1@Michigan.gov</u>.

SECTION 99z TEACHER RETENTION STIPEND

The FY21 State School Aid budget included a new categorical payment under Section 99z. This is to provide a stipend to teachers new to the REP in FY21, completing the FY21 school year. Teachers will be eligible for either \$500 or \$1000 payments based upon the percentage of pupils determined to be economically disadvantaged in the previous fiscal year. District eligibility for this funding is dependent on the district agreeing to a matching \$500 payment to eligible teachers. An application that requires the district to agree to a list of eligible teachers and to agree to provide matching funds, is available in GEMS/MARS through November 29, 2021.

MPSERS RETIREMENT FUNDS

The November 2021 payment includes 18.18% of the annual amount for the following state aid sections, with districts receiving an additional 9.09% each month through August.

• Section 147a(1) appropriates \$100 million for offsetting a share of Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPSERS) costs.

- Section 147a(2) appropriates \$177,400,000 for offsetting a portion of the normal cost contribution rate and will continue being paid out on a quarterly basis using actual amounts reported to us by the Office of Retirement Services (ORS).
- Section 147c(1) appropriates \$1,468,500,000 for the UAAL rate stabilization.
- Section 147e appropriates \$65.3 million, and will continue being paid out on a quarterly basis using actual amounts reported to us by the Office of Retirement Services (ORS).

These funds are to be used solely for the purpose described in the respective State School Aid Act sections. The amount allocated to each entity is based on each participating entity's percentage of the total statewide payroll for all participating entities for the state fiscal year ending September 30, 2021. If you are no longer a participating entity as defined in the act, then you are not entitled to the funds and they will need to be returned to the department. Please notify the department of that change at your earliest convenience. If you have questions regarding the related invoices and payments due to ORS, contact ORS at 517-636-0166 or ORS WEB Reporting@michigan.gov. Questions related to accounting for the payments may be directed to Christopher May, State Aid and School Finance unit, at 517-335-1263 or MayC@Michigan.gov.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- The fiscal year 2022 MSDS Records (including State Aid FTE Counts) for the October 6, 2021 count date were due to the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) by November 10, 2020 and were to be certified by November 17.
- **Proration factors** for November: Section 31a At Risk is 76.79125757%.
- The **Headlee Obligation for Data Collection** funds are being paid at \$26.7766662069 per pupil.

Do you have questions about the information appearing in this <u>Update</u>? Call the consultants identified above or **Phil Boone**, **Assistant Director**, **Office of Financial Management**, **MDE**, at 517-899-0796 cell, or via fax at 517-241-0196, or via e-mail at BooneP2@ Michigan.gov.